Betting Sluggish On To-night's Championship Battle at the Garden---Both Men Express Confidence

WALL STREET AND FIFTH AVENUE TO SEE CHAMPIONSHIP FIGHT IN GARDEN

Title Holder and Challenger in Fine Condition for Tonight's Battle.

OPINIONS VARY GREATLY

Jess Willard, heavyweight champion and Frank Moran, the most formidable white rival of the title holder, will meet in the ring to-night at Madison Square Garden. The world's heavyweight boxing championship is at stake in a local ring for the first time in-sixteen years. The last battle for the title was decided at Coney Island on May 11, 1900. when James J. Jeffries, then champion, in the twenty-third round of a most

various branches will be represented by several well known men, among them rico Caruso, David Belasco, John Me-Cormack, William A. Brady.

out the box offices. There were a few.
but a very limited few of the \$25 box
cents that Rickard had held out for his Seat a limber of the \$25 box particular friends. This supply was exhausted in the rush of the early morning. It was this unusual circumstance that led to unofficial barter. A box seat almost anywhere in the house would have brought \$100 quickly. Men of prominence from out of town rather than be disappointed paid treble prices for the less expensive tickets because no high priced ones could be found.

Perhaps never before in the history of the ring in this country has expert sentiment been more sharply divided be-tween champion and challenger. Wil-lard last night was a 5 to 8 favorite. based on the decisions of the newspapers, that Moran would not knock out Willard. that Moran would knock out Willard. Moran supporters asked from 7 to 1 to 10 to 1 on the proposition of the championship changing hands through Moran knocking out Willard. But it was ne-ticeable that with the arrival of the out of town money sentiment for the challenger was on the upward trend. Smart men of the speculative mart were of the opinion that by the time the big battle started Jess Willard's price would

Expert Opinion Divided.

Expert opinion, like the sentiment, was fairly divided, too. Many of those con-nected with the ring for years, among them ex-champions, managers and con-ditioners of athletes, predicted that Willard surely would win. Almost as many whose opinion counted quite as heavily could see nothing but a knock-out victory for Moran. All the former beavyweight champions.—Sullivan, Cor-bett, Fitzsimmons, Burns, with the ex-ception of Jack Johnson—favor the title-holder. With the negro, who thinks Moran the better man, are many whose opinions count quite as much as the champion's supporters. Jack McAuliffe, former lightweight champion, can see a knockout for the Pittsburg blond. So does Joe Jeannette, the clever negro heavyweight; Gunboat Smith, who fought both Moran and Willard, and a host of

lesser luminaries.
Willard's training in this city seems to have left one or two indelible impressions. His admirers see in him the greatest of heavyweights. Others see in him a bulk of awkwardness, nothing more. Smart men who have been associated with boxing all their lives disagree. Corbett, Kid McCoy, Philadelphia Jack O'Brien and Ted Lewis, the welterweight champion, are all of the opinion that Willard is superior by far to all the heavyweight masters of the past. Billy Gibson, McAuliffe, George Munroe, Jeannette, Jimmy Johnson and as many others see in him one inferior have left one or two indelible impresas many others see in him one inferio en to the awkward Willard who fought in the East several years ago. That divergence of opinion is directly respon-sible for the unusual interest in to-

Both Men Seem to Be Fit.

Certain it is that the principals should enter the Garden ring in as fine physi-cal condition as any men who ever strove for honor and gold. That Champion Willard's interest centres not alone in the \$47,500 prize money he has proved quite conclusively through four weeks of spirited and beneficial training at the Pioneer Sporting Club. The same may be said of Frank Moran's

TO-NIGHT Eddie Gampi vs. Billy Fits; I nmons 5 other bout.

Also immediate returns from Willard-Moran francide. Description by Hilly Gibbon Adm. 30c; Res d Seats 75c. 31. 21.50; Bozes 32.

Only a Knockout Will Satisfy the Champion

JESS WILLARD, heavyweight champion of the world—I in-tend to prove that in winning the championship I did not take advantage of a decrepit negro. I fought a cautious fight against Johnson because my handlers would not let me take a chance until the negro had been worn down. Johnson a year ago, in my opinion, was a better man than is Moran to-day. I think I could have beaten Johnson in less than ten rounds. I will show the public this time what I can do when I fight at top speed. Nothing but a clean, early knockout will sat-

Champion Has Objections.

Enrico Caruso, David Relasco, John McCormack, William A. Brady.

Many Are Disappointed.

In keeping, therefore, with the tension prior to a sporting classic of this mannitude, was the hurry and bustle evident about the sporting centres of the metropolis yesterday and last night. The out of town contingents had begun to arrive Many came with the hope of securing tickets here and when it was found that the entire house had been sold out confusion reigned.

The most harassed man in the United States yesterday afternoon was Terkickard, promoter of the fisht. Friends of long years standing came serens in their confidence that he would be able to supply their wants, even at the selected hour. They came from far and near; from Maine and California, from Alaska and from South America.

Without these troubles Rickard would have had enough to worry an orinary man into the grave. Mailed States were stored for noon. He had sensely will be to supply their wants of the first form on the first wenty-from one for the comfort. The was not turned and convenience of to chight's thousands and convenience of to chight's thousands and convenience of the comforts whether the control is tors were seaping a righ harvest from lists were seaping and the many that is a state of the make provided for ring for a polished hardwood with the first of the season of the first partners, but the studio and a series in the distinct of the first partners and the supply their wants. Friends of long the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and the partner of the first partners are seaping and right partners are seaping and right pa Willard was taken to the studios of

WHY MORAN'S FOLLOWERS

lieve he has a great chance to win-

JOHNNY MACK-I can't see Willard at all.

HARRY HAGGERTY-Moran is my hunch.

down and knocking him out.

Moran has that.

the ring.

JACK McAULIFFE -- Moran will win by a knockout.

JIM BUCKLEY-Moran is my selection for the fight.

too slow to stall him off.

JIM COFFEY-I think the fight the easiest Moran ever had.

FREDDIE WELSH-Moran is as game as they make them and I be-

JIM COFFROTH-Moran is Willard's superior in every angle of the

GEORGE CONSIDINE .- Moran is game and can hit hard. Willard is

TOMMY BURNS-I expect to see Moran get the newspaper decision.

TOM SHARKEY-I think Moran will win, possibly with a knockout. JOHN WEISSMANTEL-I think Moran will land on Willard with the terrific rights which laid Jim Coffey low.

SCOTTY MONTIETH-I think Moran can lick any one he hits, and I am pretty certain he is going to hit Willard.

DOMINICK BUCKLEY-I cannot imagine how Moran can possibly

JACK GLEASON-Ring experience will count most in this fight.

JIM GRIFFIN-Moran has a great chance if he makes a rushing battle.

HENRY MOLLER-Moran has the necessary punch to end the mill

WILLIE RITCHIE-Moran has a good chance of wearing Willard

JIMMY JOHNSTON-I think Moran has an excellent chance to cop

JACK JOHNSON—Moran can hit harder than Willard. Only my su-perior cleverness saved me from Moran in Paris. If Willard gets in the way of any of Moran's swings they will carry him out of

LUKE CARNEY-Moran has a grand chance to knock out Willard.

COL. CHARLES CROWLEY-Willard isn't too big to be dropped.

JIM DAY-Don't let any one tell you Moran hasn't a chance. GUNBOAT SMITH-I can't see anything to the fight but Moran.

ABE ATTELL-I expect Moran to knock out Willard.

JOE JEANNETTE-Moran ought to score a knockout.

JOHN REISLER-Looks pretty much like Moran to me.

GEORGE CHIP-I think Moran has a grand chance to win.

JACK WELCH-I've got my money on Moran. IKE DORGAN-I think Moran will knock out Willard. DAL HAWKINS-Frank Moran will win easily.

BILLY GIBSON-It looks to me like Moran.

LEW RAYMOND-I like Moran very much.

Moran Confident He Will Topple Willard

FRANK MORAN, challenger for the heavyweight title—Willard will find out that bulk is not everything. I do not fear his strength, for I know I can outhit him. I shall carry the fight to him from start to finish. Unless he makes a foot race of it I am sure I can topple him inside of ten rounds. I must knock Willard out to gain the title, and this I am determined to do. Willard cannot knock me out. If he is on his feet at the end of ten rounds he will be the most sorry looking champion the public has ever

attitude toward the \$23,750 he will receive win, lose or draw.

Willard has distinct physical advantages. He will have an advantage of the state boxing law fully and the preliminaries will include three fours, a six and a ten round exhibition.

Although there are four advantages. when James J. Jeffries, then champion, in the tempty-third round of a most sensational contest, knocked out James J. Corbett, an ex-champion and congeror of the great John L. Sullivan.

Among the thousands around the ring to-night at the Garden will be many persons prominent in the financial world and in society. Since the bear-map Jeffries crushed the phantom Corbett American women have taken to the fad off their European stere. More than two thousand women, many of them socially prominent in this and neighboring cities, will watch to-night the history making struzale between the glant cowboy and his blond contender. Around the ring will be men from all walks of life. There are a dozen different boxes that will represent pyramided millions. Millionaires who were battling to keep the wolf from the door when Jeffries was battling Corbett will also be of the party, Juriets who would have blushed to have their names associated with a give content of the processing the corbett will also be of the party, Juriets who would have blushed to have their names associated with a give content of the processing the corbett will also be of the party, Juriets who would have blushed to have their names associated with a give content of the processing the content

Doors Open at 6 O'clock.

The doors of the Garden will be

BELIEVE HE CANNOT LOSE

WELSH FIGHTS TOO FAST FOR WHITNEY

Lightweight Champion Makes Opponent Quit in Fifth Round.

KILBANE BEATS DONAHUE

Freddie Welsh, lightweight champion of the world, reinstated himself with the fight fans of New York last night, when he stopped Frankie Whitney of Cedar he stopped Frankie Whitney of Cedar Rapids in the fifth round of their bout at the Harlem Sporting Club.

Welsh was an entirely different fighter from the man who has been acting on the defensive for the last year or two. From

Facts About Big Bout In Garden To-night Contestants-Jess Willard, the

heavyweight champion of the world, and Frank Moran. Place and date - Madison Square Garden on Saturday eve-

ning, March 25.
Purse — \$71,250, the biggest ever offered for a ten-round bout. Of this amount Willard is guaranteed \$47,500 and Moran \$23.750.

Estimated cost of putting on the bout-\$100,000. Estimated attendance and re-ceipts-12,000 and \$145,000. Price of seats-From \$3 for

the gallery to \$28 each for a chair in the boxes. Profit to State—\$10,875, or 714 per cent. of the estimated total receipts of \$145,000, the State tax under the law. Conditions-Ten rounds with

no decision, unless of the automatic kind by knockout or foul. Time for bout to begin-9:30 in the evening.

WILL NOT SEE BIG FIGHT.

M. Amory and Winthrop Barr Did Not Buy Tickets.

the list of boxholders for the Willard-Moran fight on Saturday night you usmy name as a subscriber. There can be no error in the identity, as I am the only person of that name in the country. I have already this morning been the subject of comment by business associ-ates and I demand that you make correction. I have never attended such exhibitions and I do not contemplate doing so. The use of my name is an unwar ranted insuit.

J. M. Amory. ranted insuit. J. M. Amony J. M. Amory & Sons New York, March 24.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: II this morning's publication you mention my name as among the boxholders at the Willard-Moran fight. I have no purchased a teket and neither will witness the exhibition. I wish you would make a denial of this morning's state WINTHROP BURE. New YORK, March 24.

PENN OFF FOR FIRST GAME. Pourteen Baseball Players Leave for Annapolis.

Phuladelphia, Pa., March 24.—Coac Roy Thomas of the University of Pensylvania baseball team has selected a squad of fourteen men to take to Au-napolis to-morrow for the opening game of the season with the Navy team. The following players will make the trat Gilmore and Hoch, cattylers; Croos, Cromwell and Swigler, pitchers; Smith, first base; Todd, second base; Moore, third base; L. H. Wray or Schimpf, shortstop; Sullivan, left field; Berry centre field; Murdoth or Spielman, right

Infielders McNichol and Martin will not accompany the team because of the basketball game with Princeton for which the varsity five is preparing.

Liljehult Earns Decision. Carl Liljehult of the Bronx Chur

House, the metropolitan champion, de feated John George of the Greek Ameri feated John George of the Greek Ameri-can A. C. last night in the final bout of the 125 poured class of the amuteur wrestling tournament held at Grand View Hall, dersey City. Liljehuit do not gain a fall, but he was the aggressor throughout. C. Chrysoverger of the Greek American A. C. won the honors in the 135 pound class, winning the ref-eree's decision over William Droege, un-attached, in the final.

Park Row Makes Record.

The Park Row five of New York set new high score record for the national bowling tournament at the Grand Central Palace last night when they made total of 2.928 in their run for the rich stakes. The Broadway Palace team made 2.465, the General Electric A. A. 2.755, Roseville A. A. 2.803, Knights of Columbus 2.587, Pirates 2.604.

HOW MORAN AND WILLARD COMPARE. BOXING BOUTS LAST NIGHT.

38 in.

4416 in.

Joe Jeannette knocked out Joe Kid lotton in the second round of a sch York A. C. Cotton was out for twenty minutes. The winning blow was straight right hand one to the chin.

Rattling Reddy outpointed Young Solsberg at the Vanderbilt Athletic Club Solsberg's rushes were met by straight

Smiling Willie, substituting for Pete Smyth, won from Eddie Fletcher in ten rounds at the New Polo A. C.

WHY WILLARD'S ADMIRERS DECLARE HE'LL KEEP TITLE

BOB VERNON-I think Willard surely will score a knockout. JIM SAVAGE-I think Willard has the biggest kind of a cinch against

KID McCOY-That any man can beat Willard is hard to imagine. JIM JEFFRIES-Moran has little chance of winning Willard's title. JOE_CHOYNSKI-Willard should beat Moran decisively. TED KID LEWIS-Willard is so perfectly developed I can't figure

how any one can whip him. MIKE DONOVAN-I can't see where the courageous Moran has a chance with Willard in ten or forty-five rounds. GEORGE BOTHNER-Willard should be able to take care of his title.

DAN McKETRICK-Willard ought to beat Moran. GEORGE LAWRENCE-I expect to see the bout go the limit with Willard the winner.

JACK CANTWELL-Willard ought to win easily. BOB FITZSIMMONS-Willard is too big for the Moran type of fighter. JAMES J. CORBETT-I expect to see Willard have a little better of the bout at the end of ten rounds.

SAM WALLACH-I look for Willard to win. L. LAWRENCE WEBER-Willard will win in five rounds.

JACK HORGAN-Willard should win on dope. STRANGLER LEWIS-Moran hasn't a chance.

JACK COOPER-It will be easy for Willard if he's in shape. AL JOLSON-Very sorry to say that Willard will win. WILLIAM MULDOON -- Neither Corbett nor Fitzsimmons could defeat

Willard, so where does Moran come in? WALTER MONAHAN-Willard will be able to put Moran away any

JACK McGUIGAN-Willard is the best fighter. DICK CURLY-Willard ought to win. He is the greatest fighter on

TOD SLOAN-I think it easy for Willard.

BILLY NEWMAN-It looks to me like Willard. JIM FRAWLEY-If Willard is all they say he is he'll win easily. CHARLIE CHAPLIN-Jess Willard will be a little ahead at the finish. PHILADELPHIA JACK O'BRIEN-I think Willard will win the bout. LEACH CROSS-Willard will win easily.

HARRY POLLOK-Willard will win by a knockout in five rounds.

THESE EXPERTS ARE NEUTRAL.

JOHNNY KILBANE-Willard is the cleverest big man I've ever seen Moran has a good punch, but before he'll be able to reach Willard's jaw he will have to wear the champion down. JOE HUMPHRIES-Moran is my friend, but being an official I'm

COMMISSIONER FRANK DWYER-With both men in good condi tion it should be a wonderful bout.

JACK DILLON-I decline to predict how the affair will turn out. DAN MORGAN-Moran has a wonderful chance to knock out Willard. If Willard tries he will win by a knockout inside of four rounds. JACK SXELLY-Moran is no dub, but I cannot conceive any man his size knocking out Willard.

DAVE LEWISOHN-If Moran can get under Willard's guard he has an excellent chance of scoring a knockout.

JIMMY DIME-Willard is a great man, but Moran has an awful punch JOHNNY DUNDEE-If the bout goes ten rounds Willard will win. But if there is a knockout, Moran will be the new champion. JOHN L. SULLIVAN-Moran is plenty big enough to lick anybody.

The Jack Johnson who lost to Willard is not the same Johnson who fought Jeffries. I am not cocksure about Moran, but if there is a knockout in the bout. Moran is going to deliver the punch.

MRS. RICKARD TIMID BUT SAYS WOMEN LIKE FIGHTS

Hundreds Will Be in Garden To-night, Declares Wife of Promoter, Although She Cannot Understand Why They Want to See Bloodshed.

Mrs. Tex Rickard, wife of the man who is managing the Willard-Moran fight that comes off at Madison Square Garden to-night, says that she does hope there won't be any bloodshed.

"I don't like to see blood," she said yesterday as she sipped tea at a little table in the Waldorf-Astotia. "Yes, I'm going to see the match between Mr. Wiltable in the Waldorf-Astoria. "Yes, I'm going to see the match between Mr. Willard and Mr. Moran. I have a box and eight ladles, friends of mine, will be with me. I can't tell their names, but I'm sure they'll be willing to tell them to the press to-morrow night. I believe hundreds of ladles are going, but lieve hundreds of ladles are going, but were coming."

as for me I'm not really interested in the fight. It's only because of my husband that I'm interested."

Certainly no one ever looked less like a sport loving woman than Mrs. Rickard. She is a pretty, soft voiced young woman, with just a little drawl that sounds Southern, though she says California was her birthplace. She has big leader of the State surface. formia was her birthplace. She has big brown eyes and soft brown hair, which yesterday was tucked up smoothly under cause at Madison Square a stylish but quiet little hat; and her night. manner is very reposeful and gentle.
"I can't remember that I ever cated about sports," she said. "And, though olds Rink by invitation, and

about sports," she said. "And, though women vote in my State, I'm not interested in the suffrage fight either. Women vote too in the State where Mr. Rickard's mother lives, Washington. But we've travelled about so long—we've been in the tropies the last few years—that we just haven't been able to take any real part in political questions."

Mrs. Rickard has seen only one fight, the one in Havana last year, when Willerd knocked out Jack Johnson. She is very proud of the fact that her husband promotes only big fights.

"It is very funny," she said, "how women want to see this fight, and hesitate and hesitate till they find that some one they know is going. Weeks ago they

last night without owing a

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time secretary of the asso In assigning the reason for the doassociation drew up the following reso

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Many authors have dreamed of creating the super-criminal. It for the authors of FANTOMAS to achieve him. WHO ARE THAILAID, latest and most brilliant star among French writers, and his Pierre Scuvestre. Read this great new fiction sensation FROM THE FIRST begins next Sunday. Perhaps you can put your finger on fe gluve does.

Order The Sunday World from your newsdealer in a tvance. In Next Sunday's World March 20th